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Practitioner's Docket No.: 100_019

PATENT

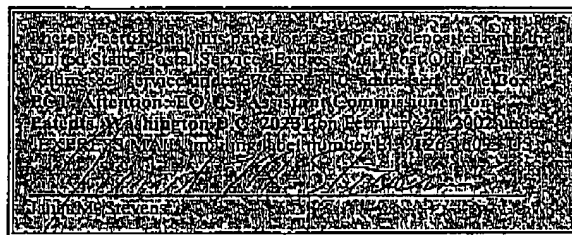
IN THE UNITED STATES ELECTED OFFICE (EO/US)

PCT/AU00/00998	24.08.2000	25.08.1999
INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO.	INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE	PRIORITY DATE CLAIMED

TITLE OF INVENTION
A SWITCH AND A DISTRIBUTED NETWORK PROTECTION SWITCHING SYSTEM
INCORPORATING SAID SWITCH

APPLICANT(S) FOR EO/US
MARCHANT, Nils

Box PCT
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231



Attention: DO/US

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the present application as follows:

In the Claims:

Please amend claims 4-13, 15-17 and 21-23 to read as follows: .

4. (Amended) The switch according to claim 2 wherein , said predetermined characteristic is the absence of said flow for said period T_{wait} .
5. (Amended) The switch according to claim 2 wherein said period T_{wait} is 0.
6. (Amended) The switch according to claim 2 wherein said period T_{wait} is different for each of P_1 - P_3 .

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